

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE - MR. PRICE
Chairman

Executive

Meeting No. 86-1-1 (R&D)
Place: Room F-88, the Capitol
Time: 10:00 A. M.
Date: January 8, 1959

PURPOSE

To receive briefing on status of the Soviet nuclear-powered airplane.

WITNESSES

CIA - Dr. Herbert Scoville, Assistant Director
[redacted] Nuclear Energy Division
Mr. John Warner, Congressional Liaison

AEC-DOD - Major General Donald Keirn
Colonel Jack Armstrong, Deputy to Gen. Keirn
Major John B. Radcliffe, Office of General Keirn

AEC - Richard Donovan, Congressional Liaison

DOD - Colonel Delmar Crossen, Assistant to General Loper

USAF - Colonel Linscott A. Hall, Deputy Director of Estimates,
ACS Intelligence
Colonel Arthur W. Cruikshanks, Jr., Deputy for Air Weapon
Systems, Air Tech. Intelligence
Lt. Col. Joel R. Parkes, Deputy Chief, Current Intelligence
Branch, Directorate of Intelligence
Maj. Joseph E. Boland, Committee Liaison Division
M/Sgt. Robert S. Angwin
S/Sgt. James S. Hazard

**Statement by Representative Melvin Price,
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Research
and Development, Joint Committee on Atomic
Energy, Regarding Soviet Nuclear Plane
Program, January 8, 1959**

I think it would be misleading to state categorically that the Soviets are in fact flying a nuclear propelled plane at the present time.

On the other hand, I personally think there is a good possibility that the Soviets are well down the road in their nuclear plane program and have the capability of producing a flying nuclear-powered aircraft in the near future.

I think this underlines the importance of the United States pressing forward vigorously with its own ANP program. In particular, I think we have got to give our hardworking scientists and engineers the level of financial support they need to get the job done.

It is also vitally important to the success of our program that clearcut objectives are established and that target dates for a ground test prototype and nuclear flight are set up as an effective guide to the program.